

# STIGMATA

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## THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

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STIGMATA SUBSCRIPTIONS: This issue, STIGMATA no. 20, will be the only edition published in 1983. One or two issues will be published in 1984. Everyone who has paid \$5.00 (\$10.00 foreign) for a 1983 subscription will also receive the 1984 issue(s). Both issue number 20 (order separately) and a 1984 subscription (order separately) are \$3.00 each (U.S. or Canadian). Foreign subscriptions (to all countries outside the U.S. and Canada): \$5.00 for either year, \$10.00 for both.

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Profuse apologies are offered yet again for our sluggish and inconsistent publishing schedule of late. Our next issue will hopefully appear in late winter or spring of 1984, and we'll summarize the 1983 developments (and there have been a number of them, plus a number of mutilations, as we go to press in mid-1983). Regarding CRUX: This will be our next publication, to appear before the end Of 1983 (we're only a year behind, folks). Cost for the single issue of CRUX is \$3.00 (U.S., Can.), \$5.00 (foreign).

## 1982 - A SUMMARY

In assessing the 1982 mutilation situation, we've elected to present our summary on a state-by-state basis. There were some interesting cases - some exhibiting new, additional quirks and characteristics - with a surfeit of reports mirroring past mutilation events virtually ad nauseam. Increasingly - especially among ranchers in the West and Midwest - there is a tendency for the livestock-owner not to report a mutilation to the local constabulary, fearing (with reason, unfortunately) that said law enforcement agency will be ineffective at best in conducting a mutilation investigation which will produce results. Although it must be emphasized that there are still some law enforcement officers and agencies in the land that will attempt to investigate these matters with diligence and objectivity; some have thrown in the towel (some sheriffs even refuse to investigate mutilations). In spite of these and other myriad obstacles, the "investigation", such as it is, continues - in the hope that with some combination of patience, persistence and optimism - the reach for understanding and revelation will not go unrewarded.

### ARIZONA

Although there have continued to be rumors regarding the occurrence of livestock mutilations in Arizona, few details have emerged. However, the following report was compiled by E. Edwin Austin of the Mutilation Data Center (4623 E. Washington - Apt. 20; Orange, California 92669):

The Maricopa County Sheriff's office in Phoenix reports in excess of 150 coyotes, dogs, cats, a few possum, mutilated and/or skinned in urban, suburban and rural Maricopa County, Arizona. Except for one unconfirmed report from Show Low (ed.note: Navajo County, eastern Arizona), the incidents were confined to Maricopa County.

Heads and legs were cut off; the animals were disemboweled, a few skinned (note: This description parallels a group of about 20 cats killed in Irvine, California about two years ago).

Inaccurate media coverage stresses cult connection. A sheriff's spokesman says there was only one such incident, involving 11 greyhounds and one possum. Pieces of paper were found at the scene, marked with the Star of David, modified to include circle in center with diagonal line from upper right to lower left. Three sources (2 in law enforcement) report unreliable information (from nationally-circulated tabloid) that a similar series began in San Jose, California at the time of this series dying off to its current

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ARIZONA (continued)

low level. The time frame for the incidents in Maricopa County was from January 1982 to mid-March 1982. During this time, the ASPCA was the investigative agency. When the sheriff's office took over in mid-March, the rate of occurrence dropped sharply. There was heavy local media coverage and substantial public reaction, but an unusually low level of panic, mob syndrome or vigilanteism. Only a few neighborhood watches came out of it and those operate with the police, not independent.

I have carefully gone through five books about symbols and their meanings. The circle with a diagonal line from upper right to lower left is used in only one context that I can find. In international road-sign systems, it means "prohibited". It is used only superimposed on another symbol, to indicate the prohibited act (e.g., the symbol superimposed on a left turn arrow means "left turn prohibited"). Thus, the symbol superimposed on the Star of David would mean "Jews prohibited", in the context of implied threat of lethal brutal violence for those who fail to heed the warning. Despite the obvious Nazi implications, I am inclined to discount the possible presence of a true cult or terrorist group as such. The woods are full of tiny groups of drug addicts and drug traffickers who try to use "cultism" as a way to capitalize on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in the Native American Church (Navajo Indian) case, that the use of drugs in religious ritual is protected by the First Amendment.

ARKANSAS

MARCH - Third Week - Carroll County

Location: Manley West property, near U.S. Highway 62, between Berryville and Green Forest. The last reported (known) mutilation in Carroll County was about two years previously. To the west is Benton County, the scene (along with Washington County, to the south of Benton) of one of the most notable and publicized mutilation waves of the late 1970's. In the Manley West case, his \$800 polled Hereford cow was found dead with its tongue, one ear and female genitalia missing. There was no blood in evidence and Deputy Sheriff George Currie speculated that the blood might have been drained (no necropsy performed, apparently). Currie reported that "the nature of the cuts on the carcass ruled out any possibility of another animal killing the cow. A Carroll County source who requests anonymity informs us that a horse was found dead in the same area and apparently under similar circumstances (exact date of this occurrence unknown). (Source: STAR-PROGRESS: Berryville, AR; April 1, 1982).

CALIFORNIA (see next page)

## CALIFORNIA

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### JULY - San Mateo County

In the first week of July, two cows were found dead with "prime cuts" removed with "surgical precision" - probably by "professional rustlers" as authorities were convinced the milk cows were killed for their meat. On Thursday night, July 8th, and about two miles to the north of the cow-butchering site, two horses worth about \$18,000 and \$3500 were found dead, having been shot 6 to 8 times with a small-caliber firearm (likely a .22). The horses were found in a pasture in the San Gregorio area, near the coast south of San Francisco and near Highway 1. Their tails were cut off "with a blunt instrument", apparently while the animals were still alive. Two additional horses in the pasture were shot and wounded, were "intact", and were expected to recover. One of the wounded was a \$75,000 horse carrying a foal worth four times that. A total of \$15,000 was being offered as a reward by the Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo County. Kurt Lapham, animal control manager for the Society, told the SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER (7-13-82) that he "doesn't know why someone would kill a horse and take its tail. Horse hair is used in quite a few commercial products, like bows for fiddles, but it's not something you would want so badly you'd go out and kill a horse. It's not like elephants' tusks".

Members of the controversial "Christ Family" cult, who live along the Arizona/California border, had been seen in the area, and though local officials offered a "near-dismissal" of the cult as potential suspects, residents were still "wary" of the group, led by one Charles Franklin McHugh, who prefers the moniker "Jesus Christ Lightning Amen". But the idea of cults-as-culprits were not dismissed entirely. Humane officer Kurt Lapham told the SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER (7-11-82):

"There has been an alert put out for a religious cult coming down from Oregon or Northern California. There have been problems in Oregon with people killing animals and removing testicles and internal organs". Lapham said members of a cult in the Montara and Granada areas further north of Half Moon Bay dress in long, hooded, flowing white robes, and one member of the group was seen near the ranch 10 days ago. But he says he doesn't know the group's name and no witnesses have linked any members to the brutal shooting and mutilation of the horses. . . . . Lapham's deputy, Sgt. Curt Ransom, said six to eight small-caliber bullets, "probably from a .22", were fired into each of the two horses that died. He said their tails were cut off three inches from their flanks while they were still alive.

On Tuesday, July 13th, three severed dog paws - two of them stuck to mile markers by the side of a country road - were found in Pescadero, not far from the pasture

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (continued)

where the two horses were killed and two wounded. Compared to the blunt-instrument removal of the horses' tails, the paws were sliced off with something sharp. The paws were thought to be from the same dog, about the size of a terrier.

The University of California at Davis autopsied the two dead, tail-less horses. .22 caliber bullets and fragments were removed. Plus, one horse had a broken vertebra, which the pathologist thought might have happened when the horse fell down a ravine.

(Sources: SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER(July 11,1982;July 13,1982), SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE (July 10,1982;July 14,1982), SAN JOSE NEWS(July 14,1982), and numerous wire service articles. Credit: Lucius Farish(UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE;Route 1, Box 220; Plumerville,Arkansas 72127), Bill Banks, Michael Hoffman, Henry Rosenthal, Richard Toronto, George Wunder)

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (continued)

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER - Solano County - City of Fairfield

Two incidents occurred in which slaughtered animals and apparent cult-paraphernalia were found in city parks. According to the Vallejo TIMES HERALD of 1-6-83:

The most recent discovery came the day after Christmas when horse-back riders came upon the carcasses of a German Shepherd and two cats in Rockville Park. A witness to the grisly scene, who asked not to be identified, said there were burned candles and markings on the ground surrounding the animals' bodies, leading police to believe a cult may be involved. "Their throats were slit", the witness said. "It was very neat, not messy in any way. That was what was so sinister about it". In late November, police found the remains of a slain cat in Allenwood Park. The animal's throat was cut and candles and Satanic-like markings were observed at the scene. Police are viewing the slayings as "isolated incidents".

Police Sgt. Jerry Shephard told the newspaper that they had no leads or suspects, "just the fact there's been two cases where animals have been sacrificed in ritualistic-type incidents". (Source: Vallejo, California TIMES HERALD; January 6, 1983; Credit: Lucius Farish/UFONS).

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

We cannot recommend the Los Angeles area to felines, judging from incidents occurring in the Laguna Hills area of Orange County (southeast of Los Angeles) and then in

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (continued)

the Agoura area west of Los Angeles proper. We will begin our 1982 survey of this area with a look at a series of reports from the Laguna Hills region in December of 1981.

Six cats were killed and partially eaten in December, 1981, by what was thought to be a coyote or dog. The killings occurred in the midst of housing tracts but the killer was never seen or heard. A state game and fish officer told the SADDLEBACK VALLEY NEWS(12-23-81) that he doubted the killer was a coyote, stating: "It sure doesn't sound like a coyote. They'll generally eat the entire animal or drag off the carcass. One of my thoughts was it could be a great horned owl or a hawk". He didn't totally discount the possibility the killer could be a dog or "weird coyote". There was one incident where children saw a German Shepherd with a cat in its mouth, which it soon dropped.

For more on similar (and maybe dissimilar) animal deaths and mutilations which began in Orange County in 1979, see "Mutilation Data Center Report" in STIGMATA no. 17.

Things have been just as bad - worse, actually - west of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley, in the area of Agoura and Westlake Village. One count cites over 150 cats killed in the area over a six-year period, through 1982. In 1982, sixteen "cat mutilations" had been reported by mid-summer. In August 1982, noted paranormal author/investigator D. Scott Rogo explained to us that, although there had been a little television coverage of the 1982 cases, nothing had been published in the newspapers about it(that changed in September, as we'll note below). Rogo told Project Stigma, in a letter dated July 25:

I thought perhaps these mutilations might have something to do with the cattle (mutilation) mystery, so I met with animal control officials today on the incidents. It seems that the cats are surgically mutilated, with genitals and all internal organs removed. Usually the cats are cut in two. No blood is left at the site of the mutilation.

(author's emphasis)

After advising and consulting with the sheriff's office and other officials, Rogo wrote in August 1982 that there did not seem to be any doubt but that the cat mutilations were being conducted by an aberrant human, "some nut". Rogo reported that the cats are often placed on the doorsteps of their owners. Plus, they were being killed before being mutilated. Rogo had heard "through the grapevine" that there had been "other mutilations" in California. An animal control official told him two horses had been mutilated in the Los Angeles area in 1982, but the official would provide no details. Rogo

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (continued)

also learned of a report of a classic cow mutilation in the Tehachapi Mountains (north of Los Angeles) in 1981; but, again, no details available.

The cat killings and mutilations became increasingly hard-to-ignore, and on September 8, 1982, they finally made the print media. On that date the LOS ANGELES TIMES reported that, since 1976, about 200 cats had been killed and dismembered in the Conejo Valley, a fairly isolated suburban area (including Westlake Village) west of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. Recounted was the most recent case (at that time), in which a ballpark groundskeeper at Newbury Park High School found the remains of a cat on the field. As Scott Rogo had described, the cat was "cut in half right behind the front legs, and it was a perfect slice job, like a butcher did it" (re-marked groundskeeper Joe Villarrial). Two similarly-mutilated cats were found in Calabasas, 15 miles to the east, and police suspected that the same killer(s) might be responsible for the offenses in both areas. The killings reached an all-time high in July and August of 1982, with 25 mutilated cats reported. The incidents became more difficult to ignore, and public awareness increased.

Sgt. Martin Broad of the Los Angeles County Animal Control Department told the TIMES that the cats were being disemboweled and cut into sections with "considerable surgical skill". Additionally, the TIMES reported:

There is seldom any blood on the cats or signs of struggle, leading police to conclude that the killings are done elsewhere and the bodies are returned to the scene and left in plain view, presumably for maximum shock value. Usually, the victims have been family pets, rather than strays; often they have a record of never wandering far from home.

As public interest accelerated, some residents began to fear that the cat killer, at some point, might no longer be satisfied with feline atrocities and turn to human children. In October 1982, a public meeting was called in the Westlake Village area - to announce to the populace that the cat killings had actually been conducted by coyotes.

In July of 1982, Sheriff's Deputy Susan Cross of the Malibu Sheriff's Station and one other deputy had been assigned full-time to the cat mutilation case. In January of 1983 Deputy Cross announced that "it was ironic", but that, indeed, the cat killings since 1976\*\* were apparently the work of coyotes. She remarked that she and others had worked since July to track down what they thought was a human cat killer/mutilator. She reiterated that the cats had been cut in half or "slit from the throat to the stomach and disemboweled".

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (continued)

**\*\*Actually, bizarre cat killings in the Los Angeles area go back as far as 1974, as indicated in the following Associated Press release of October 16, 1974:**

A series of cat killings in the wealthy suburb of Brentwood - perhaps at the hands of devil worshippers - has stirred the anger of residents and puzzled police. Residents with \$100,000 homes in the area near the UCLA campus have been plagued by the cat killings in which the bodies of pet felines are found either on the front porch or lawn of their owners. "There is absolutely no blood or fur left at the scene", Police Lt. Roy Salls said in an interview. "This does away with the theory that coyotes from the nearby Santa Monica Mountains have been responsible for these weird deaths".

Kenneth Williams, district supervisor for the West Los Angeles Animal Shelter, said some cats "have been mutilated, but we don't know whether it is ritualistic or some person is mad at the world". He said he knew of 12 such killings in the Brentwood area. Salls said ritualistic killings by some occult group were a possibility, "but it seems unlikely that they would advertise that they are in the area by leaving the carcasses".

Sources: DALLAS MORNING NEWS(October 16,1974); LOS ANGELES TIMES(Sept. 8, 1982); CONTRA COSTA TIMES(January 27, 1983). Credits: D. Scott Rogo, Thomas A. LeVesque, Ginny Cooney(Alive Enterprises), Peter Guttilla via Lucius Farish/UFONS.

COLORADO

In 1982, mutilation reports from across the country did not come close to the intensity of 1975 - or even 1980. However, reports persisted in some areas that have been hard-hit historically, such as Northern New Mexico, the Seattle/Tacoma area and, as we shall see here, Central Colorado.

On April 1, 1983, KMGH-TV in Denver re-broadcast the mutilation documentary, "A Strange Harvest", produced, written, directed, edited and narrated by Linda Moulton Howe. The documentary had originally aired in May 1980. In the autumn of 1982, Linda Howe received 18 mutilation reports from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Kansas. A summary of Colorado cases follows:

SEPTEMBER 10 - DOUGLAS COUNTY

Location: Glenn Daniels ranch, about 20 miles northeast of Castle Rock. Dogs were heard barking around 3:00 AM that morning; but apparently no one got up to check, or if they did they saw nothing. After daybreak, a 1,000-lb., 15-year-old black Angus cow was found dead and apparently mutilated on the Daniels ranch. The udder had been removed with a clean, generally circular cut. A 12-inch hole(diam.), about 6-8 inches

COLORADO (continued)

deep, had been cut under the tail. Daniels said it looked on one part of the incision as though the knife or cutting instrument had slipped while making the round cut. Examining the ground, Daniels said it appeared that the animal had been dragged downhill by its hind feet as it struggled to get away. Although the tail was intact, an investigating Douglas County deputy noted that hair had apparently been pulled out of the tail. The animal's eyes and tongue were present. The tongue was protruding and it looked like magpies had pecked on it. Approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches was missing from the tip of the left ear. Daniels said it looked cut off, but a veterinarian he called to the scene told him a coyote had chewed on the ear. The veterinarian found that the animal's back was broken, and he felt that either a bull jumped upon her or she jumped on another cow, breaking her back. Daniels said the old cow was barren, that there had been no bulls in the pasture, and he doubted that this cow would have jumped on another one. After 3-4 days the carcass began to bloat and began to exhibit more of the ravaging results of scavengers. Both the veterinarian and the deputy appeared to downplay the unusual elements of the case in favor of a natural-causes explanation. A newspaper reporter who visited the scene was spooked by it all and apparently became convinced that a cult was involved. She refused to send any information on the case through the mail, fearing she might somehow incur the wrath of the cult.

## SEPTEMBER 16 - EL PASO COUNTY

Location: Dzuris ranch near Calhan, about 30 miles east of Colorado Springs - a mutilation-in-daylight. It was a pretty, sunny day when Bill and Linda Dzuris checked their herd of cattle around noon (they had some cows that were about to calve). All was well. They had lunch at the house then spent the rest of the afternoon working outside near the house, neither seeing or hearing anything out-of-the-ordinary. Around 5:00 PM, Mr. Dzuris left in his semi-truck to pick up a load of hay. About one-half mile west of the ranch driveway, he saw a cow laying about 100-150 yards off the road. They had checked that area around noon and there had been nothing there. Dzuris went on but stopped at the next telephone and asked his wife to go out and check the animal he saw. He couldn't tell if it was calving - or dead. The latter was the case. Parts had been cut off and blood still dripped from some of the wounds. Mrs. Dzuris told Linda Moulton Howe: "I was horrified at the thought of what could do this in broad daylight when we had checked the cows only a few hours before". But her shock was not just the shock-of-the-new; the Dzurises had two heifers mutilated in 1979 - found 100 feet apart (and about a mile from the 1982 site) with their rectums "cored out". This time, a 6-year-old female Hereford-Angus cross-breed was laying on its right side. Although the face, mouth and head were undisturbed, El Paso County Sheriff's Deputy D.R. Kelsey noted that some blood and fluid appeared to have dripped off of the head area. Approximately half of the animal's udder had been removed with a clean vertical ("kind of a square shape, cut with a knife clean and smooth"). Two remaining teats had been cut cleanly across about one inch from the bag. The rectal area had been cut

## COLORADO (continued)

out in a vertical oval or egg-shaped wound about a foot wide and 6-8 inches deep; the tail remained intact. Deputy Kelsey noted that "it would seem that these areas were cut by some type of instrument rather than being torn away by some type of animal". Mrs. Dzuris reported that the animal's hair appeared to have been rubbed off on the front of the back legs near the hooves. When Dzuris dragged the cow away from the site a few days later, all the hair came off on the underside of the animal as it was pulled along. And, as we will note below, this was not the last 1982 case wherein half of the udder would reportedly be removed.

## SEPTEMBER 13 - EL PASO COUNTY

Along the same road near which the Dzurises would find their cow on the 16th, three people were caught-in-the-act while butchering a cow - at least in this case a succulent hindquarter of beef would appear to have motivated the culprits. A ranch foreman, Bob Heath, accompanied by his daughter, was repairing a windmill when he noticed that cattle in a nearby pasture appeared disturbed. A white Chevrolet was on the land, which belonged to the Bennett Ranch, and Heath felt it was out-of-place there. Heath told reporters Jean Rasner and Mont Gaddy of the RANCHLAND FARM NEWS (Simla, Colorado; September 16, 1982):

"From our point at the windmill, we were out of sight of the pickup. We decided to go take a look and saw the pickup drive away. When we got closer, we saw two people working on something in the pasture. At first we thought they'd killed an antelope or something, but when we got closer to the gate, we saw a dead steer and two men lying on either side of it like they were trying to hide from us". Heath said his first reaction was to draw out his rifle, but his daughter convinced him to go for help. At that point they went to the Pat Dawson residence, where Dawson notified authorities. Heath and his daughter then circled around back toward the east side of the pasture to head off the suspects if they tried to escape in that direction, while Dawson headed up the road toward the suspects. Dawson described the ensuing action: "When they saw me coming, they took off and headed toward me (westbound) on Sweet Road. They went by so fast I couldn't see the license plate number, so I wheeled around and took off after them. I really had my Subaru humpin' trying to catch up with them. In fact I didn't think I was going to, but they had to slow up quite a bit at the bend going into Peyton. I know the road a little better and could keep my foot in it more, so that's where I finally got close enough to get their license plate number.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Department arrested the three people involved not far away, with the left hindquarter of the steer in the pickup. When interrupted by Heath, they were

## COLORADO (continued)

in the process of removing a front quarter. The cutting was done very adroitly and it was unclear just how the steer was killed, though the wife of the steer's owner pointed out an apparent bullet hole in the steer's belly. The suspects that were arrested were: Gerd D. Arnold, age 36; Michael Badial, 37 and Martha Ann Muehl, 38. All three eventually posted bond.

## SEPTEMBER 29 - EL PASO COUNTY

A Mrs. Kobilan is Bill Dzuris's sister (see Sept. 16) and she lives on a ranch in the same general area. She was up late one night in mid-September when she heard the sound of a helicopter outside. She walked out and around the balcony which completely encircles the house. She saw nothing but could still hear what seemed to be a helicopter, with a sound so low that she could "hear the wind through the props"; still nothing but stars could be seen in the clear sky. She felt afraid, and when her dog growled and walked away from her back into the house, she followed. She was suspicious, though, and she reported the apparent chopper-without-lights to the sheriff's office. Mrs. Kobilan told Linda Moulton Howe that this was not the first time in recent weeks when she has heard a chopper but been unable to see it. Then, around 3:00 AM on the morning of September 29th, she was sitting up against a heating pad in an attempt to alleviate a back ache when she not only heard a helicopter, but this time she could see it out her window - a clear yellow light, flying in low from the bluffs north of Peyton toward the Larry Mikita ranch (see below). She stepped outside in time to watch it fly out of sight (and hearing).

The next morning, Larry Mikita found one of his cows, a six-year-old, down in an area of wheat stubble on his ranch. Mikita said the straw around the head of the animal appeared trampled down. He felt that someone had been on their knees working on the cow's head. The cow lay on its left side, with no signs of a struggle. Mikita told Linda Howe: "You could see her hoof print in the soil right next to her hoof - she layed right down there with no reflexes after she died - like lightning hit her". The right ear had been removed at the scalp, in a "jagged circle". There was blood inside the ear cavity. The right eye had also been removed along with part of the hide around it; again, there was blood in the eye socket. The lips and hide on the right side of the face had been removed in a fashion now familiar, exposing the jaw and teeth. The tongue was cut off ("a vertical cut straight up and down"), leaving about three inches remaining. Teeth were removed from the top and bottom on the exposed side, leaving only back teeth showing. Aside from the blood in the ear and eye cavities, there was very little in evidence, just a tiny amount on the ground. The rear portion of the animal had not been disturbed, in contrast to the Dzuris case (above). That night, Mikita went back to the site and saw coyotes about 200 feet from the carcass; but they did not come any closer. In fact, as of Monday, October 4th, the coyotes still had not disturbed the carcass. Mikita said the only access to that pasture (by vehicle, anyway) requires passage past his house. Mikita said he declined to notify the sheriff's department because (he

## COLORADO (continued)

told the RANCHLAND FARM NEWS): "It wouldn't have done any good".

## EARLY OCTOBER - EL PASO COUNTY

Location: near Rush, eastern part of county; Don Bingham (pseudonym) ranch. In 1975 Don and his brother Paul (pseudonym) both suffered mutilations in their herds, typified by "perfectly clean, circular cuts". In 1978 another was found with a strip of hide missing from its flank and its head lying in a "crazy position". Then, on October 11, 1982 Don found a three-or-four-year-old cow down in an unusual position, as though - Don felt - she had been running or trotting and been "zapped" to the ground. The cow had been in a pasture on the north side of a fence. But when found she was on the south side of the fence, as though she had thrown herself against the gate and it had torn loose with the cow falling to the other side. Her back legs were out behind her, the front legs underneath, in an erect "sitting up" position. Bingham estimated that the cow had been dead for 3-4 days and was probably killed around October 7th. The rectum and one ear were missing. The ear had been taken from right at the ear hole, with no surrounding hide missing. A strip of flesh was missing from across the jaw. Bingham didn't check the mouth for the teeth and tongue and he didn't tip the carcass over to see if the udder was present. Around 3:00 AM on one of the mornings during this period (not certain that it was the night of death), a man baling hay for Bingham saw a bright, mercury-vapor-like light moving at or near ground level through the pasture. At the time he thought someone was checking the well when he later realized there was no well in that pasture.

## OCTOBER 27 - WASHINGTON COUNTY

Location: a ranch near Lindon. Linda Moulton Howe learned that a mare was killed and mutilated on the night of October 26-27, although the horse had been alive and well the previous day. The carcass was found  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from a ranch house. Both ears were missing flush with the head. An oblong 2-to-3-inch-wide area of hide was taken from around the vagina. A tiny blood spot was noted on the right shoulder. Three "chestnuts" (dewclaws) were cleanly cut off of the legs; the one on the right front leg was still present. On the 29th a few drops of what looked like blood appeared on about 5 or 6 needle-size spots on the animal's back, just about the time bloat began to be evident. No scavenging animals had disturbed the carcass during the first few days after death.

## LATE OCTOBER - HUERFANO COUNTY

Animal Mutilation Probe Director David Perkins reports that a rancher near Gardner, in south-central Colorado, suffered his third mutilation since 1975. The year-old steer's penis had been removed, leaving a twelve-inch oval wound. One ear was severed with a "clean knife cut", and the anal area had been "cored out" to a depth of 18 inches. The steer died on the same weekend during which townspeople in Gardner saw bright hovering lights over the area of the victim's ranch for three nights in a row. One night,

## COLORADO (continued)

the wife of a local law enforcement officer was in her kitchen when she suddenly felt she was "being watched". She looked out the window and saw what she described as a "saucer-shaped" object, with red, blue and green lights, moving erratically over the area west and south of Greenhorn Peak (the highest point in the Wet Mountains) - the same area in which the mute-victim's ranch is located. The witness was "frightened" by the sight.

## NOVEMBER 22 - WELD COUNTY

Location: the Faulkner (pseudonym, name on file) ranch, near the Wyoming border. Rancher Faulkner and his sons check their pastures every other day. When they checked on Saturday, November 20th, nothing was amiss. At mid-morning on Monday the 22nd, a 9-year-old Charolais cow, weighing about 1500 lbs. and valued at a dollar-a-pound, was found dead near a trail road leading to a water tank. This was a cow that had been shown at a number of breed shows and fairs and it could easily have been approached by people. Mr. Faulkner covered the carcass with a plastic tarpaulin and weighted down the edges to protect from predator damage (assuming that there would have been any) before he could call someone to the site. A Weld County Sheriff's deputy investigated the site and, on November 23rd, an area veterinarian (who requests anonymity) performed a necropsy at the site. About half of the animal's udder had been cut away (see Dzuris case above). The right section of the udder was missing and two teats on the left side of the udder were missing. The vulvular area had been excised (about 5 inches into the pelvis), leaving the rectum intact. There was a hole in the animal's forehead approximately 2mm in diameter tapering to 1mm in diameter on the inside of the cranium. One of the eyeballs was missing and the veterinarian later told Linda Howe that it was the removal of this item and the precise fashion in which it was done that amazed him most of all, certifying - at least to his own satisfaction - that this was an out-of-the-ordinary event. He found evidence of some hemorrhage in the pia mater membrane as though, he felt, something was injected into the brain. His best guess as a cause of death, in fact, was "possible injection of material into brain with unknown object without causing cerebral trauma". The brain was removed for laboratory analysis but apparently no meaningful results were obtained. As of December 15th, no coyotes had touched the remains of the carcass.

Credits: David Perkins, Shirley Rickard, Martha Thompson - and a very special thanks to Linda Moulton Howe for the majority of our Colorado data.

IOWA

## FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL - POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY

Location: Carter Lake area, suburban Omaha, Nebraska. Four dogs were found dead at an intersection on February 15th and one dog was found on April 14th - with burns, stab wounds and a metal rod imbedded in one carcass. All five dogs were large breeds. In

## IOWA (continued)

the last week of April, a cat was found with its head apparently twisted off and three legs twisted or torn off. An Omaha Humane Society official said the description of the dogs matched those of dogs reported missing from around the Omaha area. An unfortunate series of episodes - but most likely not linked with the "classic mutilation" scenario. (Source: LINCOLN (NB) JOURNAL, 5-1-82; Credit - Ray W. Boeche).

KANSAS

## DECEMBER 11 - COWLEY COUNTY

Location: Orville Bair ranch near Burden (Cowley County is southeast of Wichita). On that Saturday morning, Bair found a 550-lb., 7-8-month-old bull calf dead in his pasture. One eyeball and one ear were missing, taken cleanly. The hide on one side of the face had been cut away, and a "good portion" of the tongue was missing. The rectal area and the genitals had been excised. It was suspected that the blood had been drained, but this was concluded as a result of the lack of blood or evidence of bleeding; no autopsy was performed. A paramedic who lives nearby came to the site and exclaimed how "surgical" the wounds looked. Deputy Craig King of the sheriff's office arrived and attempted to take photographs, but his camera would not function. Bair told Project Stigma that normally coyotes would be expected to "start in" on the carcass right away. The carcass was fed upon, but it did not begin until "several days" later. Jeep tracks entered the pasture and passed about 100 yards from the calf, but there were no tracks near the carcass. It was quail season at that time and it was theorized that hunters may have driven into the pasture.

There were indications of additional mutilation activity in central and west-central Kansas; but few if any details have emerged.

(Sources: COWLEY COUNTY REPORTER, December 16, 1982. Credits: Peter Guttilla via Lucius Farish (UFO Newsclipping Service; Plumerville, Arkansas); Orville Bair; Linda Moulton Howe)

NEBRASKA

## JUNE (first half) - CHASE COUNTY

Two Hereford heifers were found in a grass pasture - the udder, vulva and anus were missing from both carcasses. There were no tracks nor any blood in evidence at either site. The sheriff would not respond, would not even come out to investigate, claiming he didn't want to "get involved" (ed.comment: with that kind of milquetoast law enforcement, it's a good thing that Chase County is sparsely populated). (Source: Ray W. Boeche; Fortean Research Center; Lincoln, Nebraska).

## NEBRASKA (continued)

## DECEMBER - MADISON COUNTY

Location: Jim Lehman farm, north of Norfolk. On Friday, December 3rd, the carcass of a 750-lb., 7-month-old purebred Simmental heifer was found along a fence line near U.S. Highway 81. Deputy Sheriff Darrell Grebe reported that both ears were missing. The ear tags had been removed, with one on the ground and one lying on the right hind leg. The right front leg had been "severed cleanly", according to Lehman, plus hide and flesh up the right side from where the leg had been to the face seemed to have been excised. And a 9-inch, half-moon cut was noted on the right flank. Deputy Grebe reported that there was no trace of scavengers at the site, plus very little evidence of blood or bleeding. While at the scene, Grebe saw a dog approach and sniff at the carcass and leave without touching it. Grebe told the Norfolk, Nebraska DAILY NEWS (December 15, 1982) that "it appeared the animal was cut with a very sharp knife and that there was no indication that it had been shot". Grebe called the whole event "unusual, very unusual". Farmer Lehman was "kind of sick" at losing the \$1,000 animal, "one of my best purebred calves". (Sources: Ray W. Boeche; Fortean Research Center; Lincoln, Nebraska - Carol Werkmeister; Study on Animal Mutilations; Madison, NB)

In May of 1982 there were persistent rumors of human mutilations in and around Lincoln. Most commonly the story would claim that young boys had been genitally mutilated in public restrooms - but there was never any evidence whatsoever that the rumors were anything more than just that. In mid-autumn, a Texas truck-driver delivered a load of livestock to a facility in Lincoln. While unloading, he overheard a number of other people discussing the livestock mutilations which had been going on in that area, and the impression gained was that the cases under discussion were of recent vintage. These cases may have gone unreported, officially, which may explained why no details have surfaced. (Sources: Ray W. Boeche; Tommy Roy Blann, Lewisville, Texas)

NEW MEXICO

It comes as no real surprise that the majority of the 1982 New Mexico mutilation reports emanated from in or near Rio Arriba County - one of the most consistently mutilated areas in the country. Our information encompasses 13 cases from New Mexico, all (with one exception) from the northern quarter of the state.

## (1) JANUARY - RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

Eight miles north of the Rio Arriba town of Espanola, the carcass of a 5-year-old female Hereford was discovered. The rectum and the tongue had been cut out and the heart was reportedly missing. There were two "needle marks" on the lower abdomen. The animal had been seen alive on Friday, the 8th, and was found dead and mutilated the next day. State Police Officer Gabe Valdez investigated on the 10th.

## NEW MEXICO (continued)

## (2) &amp; (3) MARCH - SANDOVAL COUNTY

Location: On and near the southern end of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, between the communities of Cuba and Counselor, and just south of the Rio Arriba County line. On March 21, two 5-year-old bulls owned by the Jicarilla Apache tribe were found a quarter-mile apart, dead and mutilated. The bulls, each weighing over 1200 pounds, were thought to have been dead for five or six days. On each, it appeared that the reproductive organs had been removed with a sharp instrument. Part of the wound on one of the animals looked burnt or singed. Tribal ranch caretaker Travis Chavez discovered the animals and called the State Police. Reporter Mary Frei of the ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL wrote that (March 31, 1982):

...this was a first for State Police officer Michael Avilucea of Cuba, who wrote the investigative report. Avilucea recalled that Chavez described the bulls as two of the healthiest in the herd, and although most of the bulls are docile, one of the mutilation victims would have been extremely difficult to catch. "Each one's got an individual temper and this particular bull, I guess you might say, he's the king of the roost", Avilucea said. Avilucea said he believes that the bulls had "an unnatural death" and speculated that an airborne object must have picked them up and later dropped them to the ground. The backs of both bulls were broken, and they were found about a half-mile apart lying partially on their bellies, he said. One of the bulls was in an arroyo, and there were no animal tracks leading to the carcass. Adding to the mystery is that in order to get to the arroyo, the bull would have had to cross another arroyo with a vertical 12-to-15-foot embankment. Avilucea said he has received reports of low-flying aircraft and, as he put it, "flights" in the area around the time the bulls were mutilated.

## (4) MAY - COLFAX COUNTY

Around the first of the month, a dead 10-year-old cow was found on a ranch near the Colorado line in northeastern New Mexico (NE of Raton). The cow lay on its left side, about 300 feet from a water tank and windmill. According to a Colfax County Sheriff's office report, the cow was "torn open" around the udder area, but all the teats were still present. There was a hole in the right underarm from which blood exited when the cow was turned over. Foam was found near the carcass on ground slightly wet from a light snow. Investigation disclosed that the cow had apparently walked in a 100-foot circle (it was not specified whether this 100-foot measurement denoted radius, diameter or circumference; perhaps diameter) - seemingly depositing "foam" from its mouth all along the circular track before finally falling over. Not an obviously "classic" case; natural causes must be considered to explain the evidence.

## (5) MAY - RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

Victim: a six-year-old pregnant cow discovered on May 9th at mid-day. Some would say the real "victim" was the cow's owner, Manuel Gomez. Since June of 1975, the Gomez family herd had suffered 9 mutilations, including the one found on May 9th (five cows, two bulls, one heifer, one horse). Probably no other rancher in the country has been so unfortunate in terms of mutilation-victimization. There seems little that the Dulce resident can do beyond counting his herd and asking "Why?". The cow found on the 9th was thought to have died more than 24 hours previously. The udder and the tongue were missing, as was part of a lip; all removals appeared to be the result of "clean-cutting". There was no blood on the cuts or around the carcass. The rectum was cut into. The womb remained intact though part of the fetal calf could be seen inside. On the bottom of the right jaw was a banana-shaped "scrape" clear to the bone, and a 2-inch-diameter hole was noted under a back leg. Gomez, whose grandfather homesteaded the family ranch in 1877, has over 150 cows in his herd. But the mute-losses hurt. He lamented to Mary Frei of the ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL (May 31, 1982):

"We don't know why they're hitting me. It has to be somebody that has a money and that doesn't come from the ground. They pick them up from the air".

Reporter Frei wrote that:

Last year Gomez' insurance company canceled its policy after he reported the mutilated horse and his fourth mutilated cow, which were both discovered on June 14. "That insurance company was supposed to be a helping hand to the farmer and rancher", Gomez remarked. He found insurance elsewhere but now pays a higher premium. And he's reluctant to report the latest mutilation. "It's getting to the point where I won't be able to get any insurance", he said. "It's getting serious".

On several occasions in weeks preceding the mutilation, "The Light" was seen in the sky over Dulce. Though most often reported with an orange hue, it has also been red, white, even blue, and it frequently comes from the northeast and veers west. Many Dulce residents have seen and have become familiar with the sight, and it is often seen as a precursor to a mutilation.

## (6) MAY - SANDOVAL COUNTY

Location: near the sites of cases 2 and 3 - between Cuba and Counselor at the southern end of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, on the ranch of Verdelia Gutierrez and her sons. A cow discovered on May 25th, and thought to have been killed and mutilated on the 24th, was missing its reproductive organs (removed with a "sharp, surgical-like

## NEW MEXICO (continued)

instrument"). The right front leg was reported to be broken and bruised. The Gutierrez herd would be struck again - see case no. 10.

## (7) MAY - SAN JUAN COUNTY

On the evening of Friday, May 28, the carcass of a mutilated 6-year-old cow was found on the Truby ranch in the Bloomfield-Aztec area. The cow was thought to have died around the 24th or 26th of the month. Rancher Truby's wife saw a helicopter in the area on the 24th and another woman saw a bright green helicopter over the Truby ranch on the early morning of the 25th. A head count on the 28th indicated that one cow was missing, thus precipitating the search that turned up the carcass in a wash or gulley, after it had apparently slipped down a nine-foot embankment. Beyond that, there were no signs of a struggle. It was noted that, although the animal was thought to have died several days previously, no scavengers had touched it. Dog and coyote tracks were found in the area, but none came closer than 6 feet from the carcass. The cow's tongue was missing, cut off deep inside the mouth, and all hide and hair had been removed from a section of the bottom left jaw. The rest of the animal remained intact. Sgt. Howard Donaldson of the San Juan County Sheriff's Office and New Mexico livestock inspector Mel Miller investigated. They brought along two employees of the El Paso Natural Gas Company, with their geiger counter. They noted abnormally high radiation readings from just around the carcass and extending out to the left for about 10 feet. The highest reading, however, was detected at the cow's mutilated lower jaw. Plus, prints of a large shoe or very flat-heeled boot were found in the sand near the animal's head, according to livestock investigator Miller. The victim cow was a healthy animal with a four-month-old calf, reported ranchers Robert Truby, Sr. and Robert Truby, Jr. The elder Truby exclaimed that: "There's a bunch of magpies in this area that always go to the dead stock, and they didn't go to (this one). I've been around cattle all my life, and I'm 66 years old. I've never seen anything like it. It was a real eerie thing. It's something we don't understand. Or else we do understand and don't want to come out with it". Sgt. Donaldson commented: "Something that we can't explain went on".

## (8) &amp; (9) JUNE - RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

Rancher Joe Garcia found two cows dead in the Chama area. They may have been dead as much as 10 days before being discovered, and were too decomposed for an autopsy. However, State Police Officer Gabe Valdez felt they might have been genuine mutilations, as hide around the jaws had seemingly been cut away cleanly.

## (10) JUNE - SANDOVAL COUNTY

The herd of Verdelia Gutierrez and her sons lost another member (see case no. 6). Virtually every year around June 14-15, a mutilation is discovered in Rio Arriba or the surrounding counties (Manuel Gomez of Dulce has been the victim on this date several times). A 3-year-old Gutierrez cow was found on June 15th; it had apparently been killed

## NEW MEXICO (continued)

and mutilated on the night of the 14th-15th. The previous morning, a dark green helicopter was spotted by the Gutierrez boys, as the chopper flew low over the ranch. The cow was found to be missing its uterus, tongue and one eye. One or more ribs were broken. Officer Gabe Valdez thinks this may have occurred as the animal was dropped from the air. The carcass was found soon enough to have been one of the freshest to turn up in several years, so a veterinarian from Farmington was called in to examine the animal. The vet found the heart very "mushy", much to his surprise. Although the blood was present, the vet was puzzled over its failure to clot properly. But most puzzling to the veterinarian was the removal of the eyeball, as he was unable to understand how it was done in such a precise manner (sound familiar? See Colorado, November 22).

## (11) JUNE - RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

Manuel Gomez of Dulce inspected his herd on June 28 and found his tenth mutilated animal since mid-1976 - and his second of 1982 (see case no. 5). The 5-year-old cow was seen alive on Friday, June 25, and Gomez believed it was mutilated that night. The tongue, upper lip and half of the udder (see Colorado and Utah/Wyoming) were removed in "the usual way". Discussing the mutilations with Manuel Gomez, Mary Frei of the ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL reported (May 31, 1982):

The older Gomez is a soft-spoken man until the subject of former FBI agent Ken Rommel's 1980 mutilation investigation comes up. Rommel concluded that natural predators mutilated already-dead cows. "Mr. Rommel never did come out here to talk to me", said Gomez with a touch of bitterness in his voice. "Of course, during the year that he was in, there were no mutilations in this part of the country. They were mutilating up in Canada. We've been in the ranching business for a long time, and we know the difference between a mutilation and a cow that has been killed by a predator. We know the difference, and any animal that we find dead and hasn't been touched by predators, we know that it was a mutilation. Because they sense something on the carcass, and they won't eat it".

## (12) AUGUST - CATRON COUNTY

A departure - a mutilation report from any area other than northern and NW New Mexico. Stare Police sources notified Officer Gabe Valdez in Dulce that a mutilated cow was discovered around August 10 in the Quemado area, but no details have been forthcoming.

## (13) AUGUST - RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

A rancher who had previously been struck in 1978 found a 4-year-old female Charolais west of Dulce on August 15th. The tongue and udder had been taken; the rectum had been

## NEW MEXICO (continued)

"cored out and two teeth were missing from the mouth. The cow was thought to have been dead for perhaps two days.

(Sources: ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL; 3-31-82, 5-31-82, 6-19-82, 6-30-82; Farmington, New Mexico DAILY TIMES; 6-2-82; Aztec, NM, INDEPENDENT-REVIEW, 6-10-82 - Credit: Mary Frei, Gabe Valdez, Gary Lambert)

NORTH CAROLINA

A series of animal mutilations in Rowan County, between Greensboro and Charlotte, have come to the attention of Bonnie Smith and other members of the Rowan County Humane Society. In an interview with Mrs. Smith, the county-seat newspaper, the SALISBURY POST, revealed in January 1983 that:

Two animals were mutilated within a one-mile area of Woodleaf in June and July and another was injured on Old Concord Road. A bull owned by Jim Graham, state agricultural commissioner, and a goat were mutilated around the end of November. On January 12 (1983), the skinned carcass of a poodle was found on Crescent Road in eastern Rowan....Mrs. Smith said the animals couldn't have been killed by other wild animals because of the way they were found and injured. Of the animals in Woodleaf, a bull was found with its ear cut off and genitals mutilated and a calf was found with an ear and eye missing. The goat's throat was cut and Graham's bull was butchered in a field. In all cases, the incisions were clean, as if made with a scalpel. Mrs. Smith said all except the calf were tame, hand-raised pets. ...Mrs. Smith said it's hard to tell how many other mutilations might have occurred, because people don't talk about it. She found out about some other cases by talking to veterinarians. A couple of years ago, she found six or eight white rabbits skinned, with carcasses and skins stacked in two piles, in woods behind her house.

...Don Barbee, Woodleaf postmaster, said someone cut an ear and an eye out of a bull he owned in June. "No, it was definitely not killed for the meat", Barbee said. "It didn't make sense to me at all. It was a clean cut, like with a sharp knife". Mrs. Truett Smith of Old Concord Road, whose family owned the 1100-lb. bull mutilated at their home in June, said the animal was definitely not killed for the meat. (The sheriff's office) thought it might be some cult, because of the organs that were removed"...

Bonnie Smith of the humane society told Project Stigma that the Smith bull was found near the house, tied between trees, and nearby were two cigarette butts - different brands.

## NORTH CAROLINA (continued)

No one in the family smoked those brands. But the cuts on the bull were remarkably clean and bloodless - just no evidence of blood or bleeding. Mrs. Smith also informs us that in mid-July 1982, and near the site of the Barbee mutilation, a week-old calf was found with one ear apparently having been cut off.

(Source: Salisbury, NC, POST, January 24, 1983. Credit: Peter Guttilla via Lucius Farish (UFO Newscipping Service), Bonnie Smith)

NORTH DAKOTA

## LATE MARCH - DIVIDE COUNTY - NEAR WILDROSE

On the night of Friday, March 26 or the early morning of Saturday, the 27th, an attack was launched on the cattle herd of Raymond Skor. According to the Crosby, North Dakota JOURNAL of March 31, 1982:

Killed directly in the attack were one milk cow and one calf, while two other calves died, apparently from emotional stress created by the attack. One was just being delivered at the time. Nine other cows required sutures for multiple wounds, keeping a veterinarian busy for seven hours Saturday... Two federal government trappers visited the scene Monday, and decided the footprints available appeared to be canine. But the wounds did not appear to be what would be expected in an attack by a dog. Most of the cuts were single slashes, and very deep - appearing to have been caused by an animal with a single, very long and very sharp tooth. "They sliced just like a knife, shaving some of the hair next to the wound", Mrs. Skor explained in a telephone interview. Mrs. Skor said there were at least 100 beef animals in the pole barn at the time, and probably a few pigs, as well. Snow covers the fence for the pig pen, so the pigs have been able to come and go, and they may have moved into the barn for shelter. The possibility of human vandalism seems even more unlikely, because there was severe blizzard conditions that evening. Mrs. Skor says her husband checked the barn at 10:30 Friday evening and all was well. He discovered the carnage about 6:30 the next morning. "The cows seem to have done a pretty good job of protecting their calves", she noted.

Raymond Skor told Project Stigma in mid-1983 that no additional attacks of this nature occurred again to his herd nor to anyone else's in the area, to his knowledge. One farmer 4 miles to the east did find a horse that apparently died on that same March weekend in 1982, but indications were that the animal died of natural causes. Skor elaborated on the "single claw theory" as presented to him by one of the government trappers. The trapper asked Skor to visualize an animal the size of a bear or maybe a bear it-

## NORTH DAKOTA (continued)

self - which had somehow lost all but one claw on a foot (perhaps in a trap) and it seemed to the trapper that this one claw could have been used in the livestock attack, judging by the appearance of the wounds. (Source: CROSBY JOURNAL, 3-31-82. Credit: Lucius Farish (UFO Newsclipping Service); Raymond Skor).

SOUTH DAKOTA

LATE OCTOBER-EARLY NOVEMBER - MINNEHAHA CO., CITY OF SIOUX FALLS  
Four dogs were found killed and mutilated in Sioux Falls within a week. The police department was aroused enough to assign four men - one per dog - to the case:

- (1) Saturday, October 30 - a small dog, skinned, carcass left behind.
- (2) Sunday, October 31 - a golden retriever, only described as "badly mutilated".
- (3) Monday, November 1 - a doberman, also "badly mutilated".
- (4) Thursday, November 4 - a small animal, found skinned and headless near railroad tracks; possibly a dog but identity uncertain.

In cases 2 and 3, the dogs were taken from their home kennels and were found dead in the attached garage of houses one block (case 3) and two blocks (case 2) away. In case 2 the car in the garage was also described as "heavily damaged" (?) (Fortunately it wasn't described as "badly mutilated"). Laboratory reports indicated that dogs 2 & 3 were not poisoned or tranquilized. A turquoise necklace was found at the scene along with one of the carcasses. A photo of the necklace appeared in area newspapers as the police hoped someone would recognize it and offer information. Authorities discussed the possibility of a "cult connection", although detective captain Don Skadsen stated: "...it's my personal opinion at this time, based on the circumstances, based on the nature of the wounds and how the mutilations occurred...I don't personally feel that it's that type of thing, any type of a cult situation". (Sources: Mitchell, South Dakota, DAILY REPUBLIC, November 2 and 6, 1982. Credit: Lucius Farish, UFO Newsclipping Service).

TEXAS

OCTOBER 20 - DUVAL COUNTY - NEAR SAN DIEGO

Some ranch workers found the remains of a six-year-old calf between a mile and two miles from a ranch house on October 20th. It was suspected that the calf died on about the 18th. Early on the 18th, ranch hands left hay at the site and there was nothing amiss there. The gate into the pasture was locked and the site was a mile beyond the gate. The calf's head and tail both appeared to have been cleanly severed from the body and both were missing. There was a cut or incision from where the tail had been cut away all the way up to the neck and, as far as could be discerned, all the internal viscera

## TEXAS (continued)

was also missing. There was no blood or evidence of bleeding. A piece of "tin" sheet-metal lay on the ground just where the calf's head should be and a white powder could be seen on portions of the carcass. An empty sardine can lay on the ground about 12 feet from the piece of "tin" and a jawbone lay about 4 feet away. It is not known if it was suspected of being a jawbone of that particular animal. With temperatures in South Texas in the mid-80's, the carcass appeared to exude a normal or expected odor of decomposition. Other cows fed on the nearby hay; buzzards were in the area but it seemed that very few scavengers were interested in the calf-husk that remained. The incident was reported to the sheriff's office but the sheriff "couldn't care less", according to Project Stigma's anonymous informant, and it was also felt that a local livestock association investigator "would be of no help". A number of cattle mutilations have occurred in the Duval-Jim Hogg-Brooks Counties region (as well as to the south, in the counties bordering the Rio Grande), with most occurring in the mid-1970's.

On the ranch where the recent livestock-death occurred and in the surrounding area, an unidentified "lion-like" animal had been spotted frequently. It had a "big head" and the body was a reddish color. One witness, driving at night, saw what she thought were red reflectors, as illuminated in her headlights, by the side of the road. As she drove closer, she realized they were the eyes of a cat-like animal. A number of animals which had been killed and/or "mutilated" and/or eaten in the area were thought to have been victims of the "mystery cat", and scratches on some horses were attributed to the same animal.

UTAH - WYOMING

These states are considered together because the only known mutilation cases in either state in 1982 occurred in an area along the border between the two, in Sweetwater County, Wyoming and Daggett County, Utah. All of the known mutilations occurred between September 20 or 21 and October 24, 1982. We have details on eight cases; one law officer has said that there were ten in the area. Over three dozen cases have occurred in the three-county area (including Uinta County, Wyoming) since (and including) 1975. Most occurred in 1975, with 16 in Uinta County that year. We'll outline the eight 1982 cases below:

(1) Jordan O'Brien ranch (all names of ranchers are pseudonyms). A Hereford cow found on September 22 was thought to have been mutilated on the 20th or 21st. A portion of the udder, on the left side, had been cut off (see Dzuris and Faulkner cases in Colorado and New Mexico case no. 11). The right ear was cut off flush with the head and half the left ear was excised. A tag that had been on one of the ears had been removed and left on the cow's neck (This has occurred a number of times throughout the years - an ear will be removed but the tag that was on it will be left at the scene - see Neb-

## UTAH-WYOMING (continued)

raska-the Lehman case in December). The Daggett County sheriff reports that the animal was necropsied by the state veterinarian and: "It was his opinion that the cow was dead before it had been mutilated. He also stated that the mutilation was done with a cutting instrument and was not done by an animal".

(2) Travis O'Brien ranch (Jordan O'Brien's brother). A \$600 cow was found on September 26 and was estimated to have died sometime since the 23rd. The tongue, left ear and the entire udder were taken.

(3) Alan Partridge ranch. Another \$600 cow was found mutilated, again on Sept. 26, and it was thought that death had occurred a day or two previously. The animal was found  $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile off a road in a field, with the left ear removed. An unspecified number of teats were also taken.

(4) Alan Partridge ranch. On or about September 30 (Thursday), a four-year-old cow was found missing its left ear, entire udder and a 4-inch-wide by 6-inch-deep section which had been "cored out" of the rectal area.

(5) Alan Partridge was the owner, but this \$500 cow was found on another nearby ranch (not known whether it was supposed to be on this other ranch) on about October 10th. Missing were the left ear, all teats and, in this case, the female genitalia.

(6) Alan Partridge, owner. Again, an animal found on another ranch (though not the ranch in #5). A 2-year-old, 600-lb. bull calf was mutilated around October 19th. The left ear was cut off flush with the head. The penis was removed, leaving a clean oval wound where it had been; the testicles were undisturbed. Some blood was noted in the animal's nose and mouth, and the neck appeared swollen. Immediately around the head were traces of blood on the grass.

(7) Howard ranch - A 400-lb. Hereford steer calf was killed and mutilated around Oct. 19th or 20th. The penis and scrotum were taken, along with the left ear. The tongue was missing - an element not reported in the other area cases. A portion of hide had been rather cleanly removed from the lower left side of the jaws, exposing the mouth, from which the tongue was taken.

(8) Howard ranch - another 400-lb. Hereford steer calf, mutilated around October 24th. Only the left ear was taken, with no other sign of mutilation. A Rock Springs, Wyoming veterinarian performed an autopsy on the animal on October 26, and he felt that the animal might have died of natural causes, as the lungs exhibited some infection. There was no other apparent cause of death. A small amount of blood was noted coming out of the

## UTAH-WYOMING (continued)

mouth, and there were indications that the calf had struggled to some degree.

Sweetwater County, Wyoming, sheriff's deputy Theron Wilde told Linda Moulton Howe, in the update segment of the April 1983 re-broadcast in Denver of "A Strange Harvest":

They tell me that it's predators, which I do not believe, because I do not feel a predator can do these things. I don't feel a predator can come up and chew half of a bag off of a cow or the end of a penis off of a bull and not touch any of the rest of the cow. I've been around predators and they'll go inside the abdominal cavity first and eat the insides, which is easy eating.

Deputy Wilde told Linda Howe that the state crime lab in Cheyenne agreed to treat potential mutilation cases with the same methods and priorities assigned to human homicide investigations. Wilde, a working cattle rancher, also reported that there had been a few helicopter reports during the period of the mutilations, and extending to November 7th. Around the first of October, Wilde requested that a seismic exploration team with a chopper that had been working in Uinta County refrain from flying over the Daggett/Sweetwater County area. On Sunday, October 10th, Wilde, whose ranch is in the area where the mutilations occurred, observed a small 2-seater helicopter, with a glass bubble, silver tail with red at the end of the tail, circling over pasture lands. Wilde was unable to detect identifying markings through binoculars. Then, on November 7th, the same or a similar chopper flew over in the same circling pattern. This area was the scene of one of the more vivid "mystery helicopter" sightings that we reported on in our 1980 special publication, THE CHOPPERS AND THE CHOPPERS. In 1977 a deputy sheriff was chased and paced down a rural road by a solid dark-green helicopter at speeds of up to 90 mph until the chopper, with its three long-haired, cowboy-clothes-clad occupants laughing and whooping it up, sat down on the road in front of the deputy's pickup. The deputy grabbed for his rifle, picked up his shotgun instead, and fired harmlessly at the chopper as it rose and flew away. The deputy had no trouble hearing the chopper as it flew alongside him but when it took off, he heard no sound - was it "silenced" in some fashion (like the "whisper mode" choppers in the films "Blue Thunder" and "Endangered Species") or was it a trick-of-the-mind induced by the deputy's fright and adrenalin-flow?

(Sources: Linda Moulton Howe; Gaylen Jarvie, Sheriff of Daggett County, Utah)

WASHINGTON

## FEBRUARY 19 - PIERCE COUNTY

Graham area. The 23rd known horse mutilation in Pierce County since (and including) 1975 garnered ample publicity and again raised the ire of horse lovers. These horse

## WASHINGTON (continued)

attacks, all directed at either geldings or stallions, have differed from the "classic" livestock mutilations reported elsewhere in the country in that a great many of the equine victims survived the attacks. There is usually ample blood and bleeding. The events are most often characterized by the removal of the penis with a sharp instrument. The gelded quarter horse found on February 19 was alive but bleeding profusely from the wound where the penis had been severed. The horse was found near the house but, as in the other cases, there was no noise or disturbance - leading some investigators to theorize that some sort of pain-killer/sedative may have been applied with a tranquilizer dart gun - using a drug that dissipates soon after the mutilation. But in the Graham-area case of the 19th, Puyallup veterinarian William J. Briskey was unable to locate any areas on the body that would indicate an entrance wound from a dart or needle. "There was no sign of sedation", he said. "The horse looked normal except for the bleeding. I wish I knew how they were doing it".

## MAY 12 - PIERCE COUNTY

A 6-week-old registered thoroughbred colt was seen alive and well around 7:00 on the evening of the 11th. Although most of the victim horses fail to put up a struggle, this animal apparently "put up a fuss" against its attackers. The horse, found still alive around 8:00 the next morning, had suffered a deep 3-inch gash in the groin area, and the intestines were trailing out. Authorities felt the animal probably put up a fight as someone tried to sexually mutilate it - like the others - but the groin was sliced in the struggle. At around 4:30 that morning, a neighbor's dog had been "barking wildly", but no other suspicious activity was recorded. This was noted as being horse mutilation number 24 in the series.

By November of 1982 a reward for the mutilators stood at almost \$10,000. Press accounts indicated that the latest horse mutilation before 1982 occurred in 1980. However, as we noted in our summary of the 1981 cases in STIGMATA no. 16, a couple of such attacks may have occurred in early 1981. Also, a bull was reported mutilated in Pierce County in late winter of 1981, and a steer in neighboring King County was mutilated in September 1981. Sheriff and Humane Society investigators are stumped, having been unable to discern any patterns. They report that all of the horses have been mutilated "with smooth, clean cuts that would indicate the use of an extremely sharp instrument". The organs that were removed were recovered in only two cases.

To the north of Seattle, it was reported in February of 1982 that a significant number of horses in Snohomish County had been turning up missing - and presumed stolen. Of about 30,000 horses in the county, approximately 30 disappear or are stolen each month.

It was revealed in October of 1982 that in the Yakima, Washington area, up to 14 dogs had been skinned within a year, and their carcasses tossed over the back fence at the

## WASHINGTON (continued)

Yakima County Humane Society animal shelter. Also, at least a half-dozen cats had been "partially skinned" (using "very smooth razor cuts"). All survived, although at least some of them had to be put to sleep. As for the dogs, it was difficult to determine whether they had been alive when skinned.

Sources: TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE, 2-24-82, 5-12-82; Eatonville, WA, DISPATCH, 2-24-82; Everett, WA, HERALD, 2-5-82; NISQUALLY VALLEY NEWS(Yelm, WA), 2-25-82; SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER, 10-17-82, 11-28-82; Olympia, WA, OLYMPIAN, 11-28-82; Salem, OR, STATESMAN-JOURNAL, 11-27-82; Yakima, WA, HERALD REPUBLIC, 10-12-82 - Credit: Linda Williford, Kalani Hanohano(Jacob Davidson), Toyo Yamamoto, Peter Guttilla via Lucius Farish(UFO Newsclipping Service); Julius Rodman via Kalani Hanohano.

WEST VIRGINIA

## EARLY SEPTEMBER - PRESTON COUNTY

Location: the Bruceton Mills area, near the Pennsylvania border. A couple we'll call the Sandersons, in mid-1982, moved onto property where the house and adjoining fields had been deserted for several years. They brought with them a number of horses and three goats. In August the youngest kid goat was found "ripped in half", apparently having been attacked by an animal. The backbone was fractured and the carcass partially eaten. Then, around the first of September, the second of three goats was found over a hill about a quarter-mile from the Sanderson's house. The ample udder was missing from the 5-6 year-old animal and it lay dead. The udder had been removed "smooth as could be" and the underlying abdominal cavity had not been damaged. There was no blood around and no evidence of bleeding. Although it was expected that scavengers would attend to the carcass right away, nothing fed upon it until about a week later. The third goat was chained about 20 feet away from where the carcass was found. Physically, the survivor was well, except that the formerly docile animal was suddenly fearful and nervous. It looked haggard and thin as though it had actually lost a significant amount of body weight overnight - as it walked in a constant circle at the length of her chain, wearing a rut in the ground. As of mid-1983, this remaining goat remains uncharacteristically nervous and "terror-stricken". There were less-than-substantial hints of other similar occurrences in the area; but at present the Sanderson goat case remains an isolated one.

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PREVIEW - 1983: The "trickle" of mutilation reports typically begins to get noticeably heavier around mid-year. 1983 appears to be no exception, as we go to press. Mutilators have already struck Colorado and Texas. Persistent rumors emanate from Arizona. Hardest hit so far has been northern New Mexico. In CRUX we'll report on some fascinating and possibly mute-related occurrences in New Mexico.

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## MUTE MISCELLANY

In her documentary, "A Strange Harvest", Linda Moulton Howe presented an account (obtained by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, using regressive hypnosis) of a woman who claimed to have been abducted onto a UFO in the Houston area in 1973. Aboard the craft, she witnessed the mutilation of a calf by ufonauts. Two recent developments: The woman's daughter (who was abducted in the same incident but refused to participate in the investigation) has now surfaced and expressed interest in determining to her own satisfaction (and peace of mind, apparently) just what occurred. Then, on Memorial Day weekend of 1983, the Texas woman was driving with family members in Missouri when their car was paced by a white-light UFO for some distance. They reached their destination, the farmhouse of a relative, where the light moved in to hover over a barn before exiting. Three years previously, it is claimed that three cattle were found dead and mutilated in that barn.

Anticipation is keen for a book to be published in 1984 by Prentice-Hall: titled CLEAR INTENT by Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood. Though some amount of mute date will apparently be included, the primary thrust of the book will be an examination of the government/UFO connection - based in part on documents obtained via the Freedom of Information Act. There will be much on the madness of 1975 - mutes, helicopters, UFOs - including the brazen overflights over military installations. If you doubted that the government was interested in UFOs, this book has the potential for allaying those doubts. It's tentatively scheduled to be published in the spring of 1984.

Two videocassette releases may be of interest to those with video recorders. "Endangered Species" has now been released on videocassette by MGM/UA. It's the same as the theatrical version. A documentary - "UFOs - It Has Begun" is reportedly available, but we do not know who issued it or where to locate it. The 1979 film is actually an early-to-mid 70's documentary, "UFOs - Past, Present & Future" - with the addition in 1979 of a significant amount of Jacques Vallee-narrated mutilation material.

Ray Boeche of the Nebraska Association for the Study of the Unexplained and Terry E. Mahlman of the University of Nebraska/Lincoln advise that a public conference on "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena" will be co-sponsored by their organizations and will be held in Lincoln on November 11-13, 1983. Speakers include J. Allen Hynek, John F. Schuessler, Budd Hopkins, Lawrence Fawcett, Loren Coleman, Roy Mackal, Larry Arnold, and mutilations will be covered by Linda Moulton Howe and Tom Adams of Project Stigma. For further information on admission, etc., contact: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Division of Continuing Studies; 205 Nebraska Center; 33rd and Holdrege Streets; Lincoln, Nebraska 68583. We're looking forward to it!

Investigator Tommy Roy Blann, in May 1983, received confirmation from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police - that "the investigation into cattle mutilations within Alberta continues to be an ongoing investigation". He was provided with no details.